



**VMRC Self Determination Advisory Committee Meeting
Minutes
November 6, 2018**

<u>VMRC SDAC Members - Present</u> Claire Lazaro- chair Alphonse Mickahail- vice chair Bethany Mickahail (on phone) Karen Bonacci Roger Goatcher Gia McElroy Dena Pfeifer <u>VMRC SDAC Members- Absent</u> Mary Bonacci Mandy Carranza Crystal Enyeart Jayme Florez (resigned) John Forrest Christine Hager (DRC OCRA) Liz Zastrow	<u>Guests</u> Joseph Hernandez- Premier Healthcare (on phone) <u>VMRC Staff</u> Tony Anderson- Executive Director Cindy Mix- Director of Consumer Services Elizabeth Diaz- SD Service Coordinator <u>SCDD Staff</u> Dena Hernandez- North Valley Hill
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Meeting Called to Order

Claire Lazaro-chair called the meeting to order at 3:42pm

Welcome & Introductions- were made by all present and on the phone.

Approval of Minutes from August 2, 2018

Motion to approve minutes by Roger Goatcher/ seconded by Dena Pfeifer. Vote taken and motion passed.

Approval of Minutes from October 3, 2018

Correction requested to page 2- remove wording "VMRC staff contacted people on the list who were not selected by DDS". Motion to approve minutes with correction was made by Roger Goatcher/ seconded by Dena Pfeifer. Vote taken and motion passed.

Public Comment-

No Public Comment was made at this meeting.

However there was a discussion and question regarding how correspondence from DDS was sent to conservators or was inadvertently sent to the person conserved instead. Cindy Mix- VMRC Director of Consumer Services will check as the letters should be mailed to the mailing address of the conservator.

Update on the Self Determination Program Roll out- *information*

Tony Anderson, VMRC Executive Director, and Cindy Mix VMRC Director of Case Management gave an overview. The last meeting on self-determination and the regional centers was cancelled. Some highlights from previous meetings were:

- No dates for the Train the Trainer trainings as yet
- There are sub committees working on different parts of the roll out
- A need for outreach of Independent Facilitators who speak languages other than English
- Outreach to people on the self-determination list to see if they have an Independent Facilitator in mind to determine the need for specific Independent Facilitator
- Two regional centers have training materials to train Independent Facilitators- not sure for the funds for people to attend such trainings
- A list of questions regarding the processes was given to DDS and DDS will answer those questions at the next meeting on 11/8/18
- DDS was to add info on their website with the info on initial selection- as of this meeting 11/6/18- the website doesn't have any info.
- ARCA had some questions about a possible appeal process being overseen by each regional center. ARCA is seeking clarification of this process.
- VMRC contacted DDS since out of 100 selected- approximately 20-25 people said they declined the offer- DDS directed the regional center wait for more direction. VMRC staff spoke to those 20-25 and now there is approximately 10 families who have declined.

At this point in the meeting there was a lengthy discussion that self-determination program is not a "magic" pill. Concerned parents stated that if there is no service now how the self-determination program is going to help. Members spoke about the lack of services, need for legislation to allow Medical to cover individuals with disabilities to 26 years of age, the importance of ABA all

day every day, hiring and keeping good staff - low pay without benefits, a lack of residential options for folks with intensive needs, not enough money for appropriate services, different levels of disability are not being addressed, and a request to inform DDS that “severe client’s” are not getting the services and supports they need because they just do not exist.

The committee was informed that VMRC does communicate with DDS and will continue to do so. The scope of responsibility of the VMRC SDAC is advisory to the roll out and eventual open to all Self Determination Program. The chair of this committee participates on the SCDD Statewide Self Determination Advisory Committee and communicates those concerns at the meetings- DDS attends those meetings. The meetings are open to the public and all minutes, agendas are posted.

SCDD Statewide SDAC Update - Information

Claire Lazaro- participated on the call from the VMRC Stanislaus location on October 16, 2018 at 2pm. She reported the following from that conference call:

- 9,000 names were submitted statewide to DDS to determine the first 2,500
- A person may keep self-determination if they move to another regional center
- Independent Facilitators- DDS is developing a guidance document to include regional center services coordinators acting in this role. Parents of minor children, and spouses of consumers will be unpaid; parents of adult consumers can be paid. A question about Conservators acting in this role- Cindy Mix will ask that question to DDS and get back to the committee.
- DDS may provide Independent Facilitator trainings- the cost of the training will be at the persons own expense
- If current service coordinator acts as the Independent Facilitator there is no additional cost to the budget as they are already aid by their regional center
- An IHSS provider for a person can become the Independent Facilitator because there is no “conflict of funding”
- Fiscal Manager Services (FMS) Rate Ranges was shared (this information is contained on the DDS website September 24 update):
 - Bill Pay Option- maximum fee for least services of \$50 and maximum fee for most services of \$100 per month

-Sole Employer- maximum fee for least services of \$110 and maximum fee for most services of \$150 per month

-Co-Employer- maximum fee for least services of \$125 and maximum fee for most services of \$165 per month

- NO process on how regional centers will vendorize Fiscal Management Services. FMS may not provide all three types of services
- DDS will put a list of FMS across the state on its website along with guidelines
- Question of Courtesy vendorization- Cindy Mix will ask
- Individual Budget and Individual Budget expenses and services- includes unmet needs section- still being worked on
- Paid Internships- not reimbursable- will not come out of the budget- Cindy will get clarification
- Question –how would FMS billing work if a person goes into a hospital for a month. There is no answer for this yet
- Traditional regional center Services will remain the same until self-determination begins for an individual
- Dates were give for orientation in November, however- Cindy Mix learned that these dates have been canceled for now
- Each local SDAC can edit and add photos or make “fancy” training power point materials but the main content must be there
- No timeframe for everything to get started
- Regional Centers and local SDAC’s will be responsible for trainings
- Regional Centers and local SDAC’s cannot start orientation training until DDS have trained them for the orientation.
- There will be subsequent trainings for any new people selected to replace those who declined the program
- When will the 3 years starts - the date the waiver was signed was June 2018 and that is when officially the program started
- Next SCDD Statewide Self Determination meeting will be sometime in February 2019 at southern California.

Next Steps for VMRC SDAC

Clair Lazaro, Chair discussed next steps:

1) Person Centered Planning and Thinking training- VMRC has scheduled these beginning in January- they will rotate from San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties- these trainings are for providers, self and family advocates. The role of the VMRC

SDAC will be to promote these training opportunities. Cindy will send invites to those selected SD participants to attend the Person Centered Planning training.

- 2) Westside Regional Center is having Independent Facilitator Trainings- info is on their website. If possible- we can check out this training and replicate it in our region.
- 3) VMRC to invite all of those on the Self Determination list to the next meeting as a way to get new members on this committee
- 4) Cindy Mix will get questions answered and report back to the committee

VMRC SDAC Membership Update & Next steps- Information

Dena Hernandez informed the committee on the process for future members to be appointed to this committee. Jayme Florez, Self-Advocate from Tuolumne County has stepped down from this committee. There are several openings at this time and a need for more self-advocates. Dena #1 Pfeifer will be announcing the need for self-advocates to get on this committee at the Self Advocacy Council 6 meeting November 9, 2018 in Stanislaus County.

Other Items

The question about possibly doing Facebook Live for a future meeting was updated. Dena Hernandez explained that we are waiting guidance from the SCDD new attorney to make sure this option is Bagley Keene accepted. Dena will share the guidance with the committee and the committee shall decide to move forward or not with this.

Next Meetings: All at VMRC Howard Cohen Board Room Stockton

Monday, December 3, 2018 at 10:00am

Monday, January 14, 2019 at 2:00pm

Meeting Adjourned at 5:38pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dena Hernandez- SCDD North Valley Hills